

Remarks

The Official Action objects to the specification, which has been amended without adding subject matter that one of skill in the art would consider new. Support for the amendments is found in the originally filed drawings, specifically Figure 2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The courtesy afforded by Examiner O'Hern during the telephone interview on September 15, 2009 is acknowledged with thanks. During the interview, applicant's representative discussed an amendment to the claims, which has been included in the present amendment. The Examiner advised that the specification should be changed to include text supporting the amendment, which has been done.

Claims 1-3, 7, 9, 11, and 21-23 were rejected as anticipated by ROEBROEKS WO 02/078950, claim 8 was rejected as unpatentable over ROEBROEKS, and claim 10 was rejected as unpatentable further in view of LAMBING 5,160,771. The claims have been amended and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The references do not disclose that the fill is spaced from and does not overlap the mutually overlapping ends, and thus the amended claims avoid the rejections under §102 and §103. For example, the "fill" in ROEBROEKS (one of the metal layers, such

as layer 2) overlaps the mutually overlapping ends of the other layers.

New claim 24 has been added and is allowable because, among other features, the references do not disclose that the fill does not overlap any of the mutually overlapping ends so that the thickness of the laminate is uniform in the regions of the mutually overlapping ends and the fill.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

/Thomas W. Perkins/

Thomas W. Perkins, Reg. No. 33,027
209 Madison Street, Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

TWP/lad